

REMARKS

Claims 2-4 and 6-28 are pending. Claims 1 and 5 were canceled. Claims 4, 7-9 and 27 were amended. No new matter has been presented.

Claims 1, 4-6, 10-12 and 27 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Katori (U.S. Patent 6,995,248). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been canceled.

Claim 4 recites "wherein same image data is input into said memory device and said second processing unit in parallel." As explained in the specification at pg. 9, lines 19-24, the timing at which the image color data of CMYK are received from color correcting unit 19 and the timing at which the attribute data AMIetc is received from the region discriminating unit 21 are synchronized. For this synchronization, memories are provided before and after the color correcting unit 19 to absorb the time period for which the region discriminating process is performed at region discriminating unit 21.

The Examiner asserts that Katori, in Fig. 3, discloses that the same image data (r, g, b) is input into the memory device 53 and the second processing unit 55 in parallel. Applicant respectfully disagrees. As can clearly be seen in Fig. 3 of Katori, the image data (r, g, b) is first input to the frame member 53 and then output from the frame memory 53 to the HVC converter 55. The image data is not input into block 53 at the same time it is input into block 55, and therefore the data is not input in parallel. Thus, Katori fails to teach or suggest the features of claim 4.

Claims 6 and 10-12 are allowable at least due to their dependency from claim 4. Claim 27 recites the same feature recited in claim 4, and is allowable for the reasons set forth above. Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

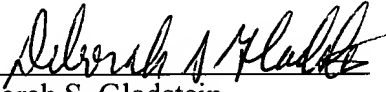
Claims 7-9 have been rewritten in independent form, and are therefore allowable.

The remaining claims are allowable as indicated by the Examiner.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 325772023600.

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Respectfully submitted,

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